

## **Architectural and Landscape Cultural Heritage Preservation and Reuse in the fragile territory of Aurès Valley-Algeria: the case study of Ghoufi**

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Algeria and Italy are linked by strong historical ties because they share a rich cultural and archaeological heritage, witnesses of the intensity of millennial relations between the two Mediterranean countries.

Algeria has a significant environmental and cultural heritage made up of ancient Berberian settlements and the oases connected to them and formed mainly by date palm plantations along the watercourses.

A significant part of the economy of Algeria was founded on this tree species from which the fruits were mainly obtained and marketed, but also used the timber for the construction of significant parts of historical buildings and artefacts for everyday life.

Today we are witnessing an impoverishment of this important resource: in many areas of the country the palm groves, considered no longer so advantageous from an economic point of view, are in a state of degradation and abandonment, thus causing problems not only of historical landscape, but also of hydrogeological nature of vast territories that for centuries have been modified and specially structured for the eco-sustainable exploitation of the cultivated areas.

Thus, even the historical and traditional building made of stone, clay and palm wood of those vast territories and valleys, whose beauty and historical relevance could justify their recognition as a World Heritage Site, is today in a state of decay and abandonment and under risks being lost forever.

The main goal of the projects is to develop a sharing of professional perspectives in the field of vernacular and troglodyte architecture and in general to the historical buildings, including material and environmental heritage preservation for their transmission to future generations (the case study will be the Ghoufi village).

Other proposals about topics linked to the Landscape and architectural heritage preservation and valorisation in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia will be also considered by teachers.

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